

Renewable Energy Initiative
Wednesday, July 18, 2007 2:00pm-4:00pm

Minutes

- I.** The influence diagram was reviewed. A copy of the diagram is posted on the website. The was discussed with the following comments:
- Reviewed policy option ES4, Public Benefit Charge Funds, it was recommended following variations in mind
 - Clean energy development fund
 - Blue skies –buy green tags from developers
 - Feed-in Tariffs
 - Define *cost effective* renewables
 - Traditional utility view is least cost and least risk
 - May be interest in broadening the definition
 - Need to consider financing mechanisms
 - Should create sub-group to discuss cost effective in depth
 - Poverty and environmental justice issues
 - Need new item on influence diagram, “Regulatory Influence”
 - Need to consider effect/impact of a generation resource type on system reliability & operation.
 - Intermittent vs dispatchable
 - Integration issues
- II.** The force field diagram was reviewed and the following comments were made:
- Government regulations are a big factor
 - Permitting
 - Right of Way
 - Land use stipulations
 - Multiple layers
 - Long lead times
 - Need to develop Smart Grid
 - Tied to infrastructure costs
 - Add technology cost on relative costs of resources
 - Is smart grid required?
- III.** Philip Powlick from the State Energy Program presented on the stated current energy mix and on the renewables landscape. The presentation can be found at <http://www.deq.utah.gov/Issues/REIFG/index.htm>
- Utah’s current electric capacity and generation was discussed
 - Utah has the 6th cheapest electricity costs in the nation
 - The estimated costs of renewables in Utah was addressed (Wind and Geothermal are the most cost effective renewables and competitive with fossil fuels, where as Solar PV was expensive)
 - National models predicting renewable potential should be updated with on the ground data